

Remarks

A. Claims

Claims 1-20 and 23-37 were pending. Claims 1, 3-5, 7, 22, 24-26 and 28 have been amended. Claims 2, 6, 8-21, 23, 27 and 29-37 have been cancelled. Claims 38-43 have been added. Claims 1, 3-5, 7, 22, 24-26, 28 and 38-43 remain pending.

Claims 6, 10-12, 27 and 31 were indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form. Applicant appreciates the Examiner's consideration of these claims.

Claims 15-17, 22-26, and 28-30 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Beardsley. Claims 1-5 and 7-9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Beardsley in view of Shima. Claim 13 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Beardsley in view of Shima and in further view of Meltzer. Claim 14 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Beardsley in view of Shim and further in view of Fischer. Claims 18, 32 and 33 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Beardsley in view of Pawlowski. Claims 19 and 34 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Beardsley in view of Meltzer. Finally, Claims 36 and 37 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Addink in view of Johnson. While Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections, Claims 1 and 22 have nevertheless been amended to incorporate the features of Claims 6 and 27, respectively, along with the features of any intervening claims. In addition, added Claims 38 and 41 include the features of Claims 10 and 31, respectively. These claims, along with their respective dependent claims, are accordingly believed to be in condition for allowance.

If any extension of time is required, Applicant hereby requests the appropriate extension of time. If any fees are inadvertently omitted or if any additional fees are required or have been

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overpaid, please appropriately charge or credit those fees to Meyertons, Hood, Kivlin, Kowert & Goetzel Deposit Account No. 50-1505/5681-97000/BNK.

Respectfully submitted,



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